



HAMSPLATTER

January 1996

Volume XXIII Issue 1

CLIFF HANGERS



Volume I

When I was a little baby boy, my mama bought me a cute little toy. Two silver bells on a string, she told me it was my Ding-a-ling-a-ling. Let's hear it for the FWRC Ding-a-lings. Namely, Jim Pliett K9OMA, Carl Rittenhouse N9NRO, Dino Raptis KR9V, and Dave Beltz KF9DE. I can't believe that these FWRC bad boys actually did that !! I can't even repeat what one of the kids told Santa about ding-a-ling number four. Let's put these guys on the stage (and get um' out of here.) Ding-a-ling number four won a handknit stocking from Santa.

The "Talk to Santa Live" from the State Developmental Center was again a great success. Ask any of those who were involved and they will quickly tell you how rewarding this experience can be. The patients at the hospital ask for very little from Santa but the happiness they expele would more than fill Santa's sleigh. My thanks to Dave Beltz KF9DE who had to play Santa at the last minute due to me losing my voice. Jim Pliett K9OMA, Carl Rittenhouse N9NRO, Walt Wood N9AVR, Dino Raptis KR9V, and Annie Pliett KA9YYI, for doing a great job. Your efforts made their Christmas much brighter.

Hang on! The FWRC is off and running into 1996. Last years Christmas party left me without a voice for an entire week. My wife says it was the best seven days of our marriage. That's what playing Old Saint Nick will do to you.

Get out those unused items for the FWRC Auction coming up January 19th at the clubhouse. This is an opportunity to get some real bargains and to move some of those items out of the shack. Please make sure your items are well marked for the sale. Plan to come early to avoid a wait at the check in table.

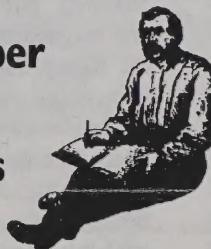
I'm looking for new and exciting ideas for this years club programs. If you have an idea or know of someone or something of interest please let me know.

Well, that about does it for this months Cliff Hanger. Have a Happy New Year and I'll see you at the January meeting and Auction.

Saloon for Now, 73'

Cliffie N9MKB

December 1995 Minutes



The following are the recorded minutes of the Fort Wayne Radio Club:

The December meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Salem Church of Christ on 15 December, 1995. There were about 110 people present. The meeting was hosted by President Carl Rittenhouse.

As this was the club Christmas party and dinner, the assembled partook of a delicious meal of chicken, ham, various vegetables, rolls and a number of super desserts all provided by the club in the spirit of the season. This repast was organized and dully managed by Kathy Raptis and Lisa Wolf who did their usual outstanding job. Nobody left the meeting hungry.

Following dinner, Carl called the meeting to order. The first order of business was the reading of the minutes, and they were approved as read.

Carl gave a report on the club treasury as follows: The General fund has a balance of approximately \$6200, the Repeater fund has a balance of \$2300.19, the Hamfest fund has a balance of \$1500.00, and the Ladies fund has a balance of \$743.50.

With the start of the new year, club dues will once again be payable. Everyone is encouraged to get them in to the Treasurer or the President by February. Chris Staller will be producing Club membership cards for the 1996 club year and expects to be ready to distribute them to paid-up members starting in March.

Cliff Shreve noted that Santa would again visit the State Development Center via ATV on Saturday December 16th. Santa will be located at his North Pole studio (Cliff's shack), and various club members will be located at the Development Center to operate the TV's and coordinate the affair with patients and Development Center staff. The affair starts at 13:30 hours and those with ATV receive capability were encouraged to listen (look) in on the festivities.

The Board decided that an update of the Club handbook is in order. Kris Staller volunteered to serve as chairman of a committee charged with updating the document. Current information/instructions regarding use of the autopatches (.91 and Murphy), ATV operating procedures and commands, and other information of interest to club members will be included in the update. Kris needs

December Minutes (Cont)

two to three helpers to serve on the committee, so contact Kris if you are interested in serving the club in this noble endeavor.

Cliff Shreve took a few minutes to present an award (a plaque) to Carl in recognition of his serving as our President this past year.

Carl then took a few more minutes to present the "Top Fox Hunter" traveling award to winner Jim Pliett who was the top scoring fox hunter this year. Carl also presented an award to Bill Kindred in recognition of his 20 years service to the club both organizing and running the Code and Theory classes.

Dave Beltz announced that a video of the goings-on at this years Oskosh Air Show (about 3 hours worth) would be shown on the ATV during the week between Christmas and New Years on at least 3 evenings. If you have ATV receive capability, check the system starting at 8pm evenings during the Christmas break.

Carl reminded everyone that the January club meeting will feature our annual club auction. Bring your treasures to this always popular event and trade boat anchors with your friends. The meeting / auction will be held on Friday January 19th.

With the formal meeting over, Carl introduced George Berger, Die Freudemacher, who provided all assembled with music, songs and even a little chicken dancing. Before we knew it, Santa himself dropped in to the delight of both the big and little kids.

Old Tyme Chatter - Ted Clifton W9TC

NO! The great-grandson has not asked. "What is all that white stuff?" Watching the boys skating on the pond, makes me a bit sorry for the snowbirds down in FL who are unable to see the beauty of the flakes as they fall and the scenes are painted in white.

All the FWRC members will be pleased to learn of the honor received by one of our amateur families. This family headed by Julian, W9TQA and his XYL Rosanne, KA9IRO, daughter Rebecca KA9ZBA, sons Julian, WB9TWR and Kurt, KA9YYF. Daughter Rebecca has been awarded a scholarship by the QCWA.



Rebecca Franke, KA9ZBA, was selected as one of the 1995 QCWA Scholarship Winners. She learned morse code at age 4 and was licensed at 10. She plans to attend Coastal Carolina University, studying biology and physical therapy.

Now is the time to move from current times to OTC history. A Scotsman, James Clerk Maxwell published a book on electricity and magnetism, in which he promulgated the theory that all electric and magnetic phenomena could be reduced to motion in the form of waves in a mysterious substance which he called the "aether." The term was adopted from German philosopher Ericke who used the word "ether" in 1829 while studying Pon's comet, referring to a transparent and extremely sparse fluid supposed to fill celestial space. In 1866 a German, Heinrich Hertz, achieved the experimental verification of Maxwell's theories by discovering that a spark could be caused to jump across an air gap between two wire ends, when another spark was caused in a circuit containing an induction coil and spark gap.

There are earlier dates than these, of course, and other names. As early as 1867 Maxwell, in his chair at the University of Edinburgh, had outlined certain of the basic elements of his theory. But of even more immediate importance to the history of Amateur Radio is a scene that occurred on a mountain in West Virginia one summer day in 1865. (The year my father was born). Shades of Benjamin Franklin! - a group of mature, bearded men were engaged in the questionable activity of sending aloft a kite, bearing on it a large square of fine copper gauze. Towards the earth trailed a slender copper strand. On another mountain, eighteen miles away, another kite, similarly laden, flew at the

same elevation. At the base of one, Dr. Mahlon Loomis of Washington, D.C., dentist, opened the copper strand that connected, through a galvanometer, to a coil of wire buried in the earth and the other galvanometer, similarly, connected eighteen miles away quivered!

Why the acceptance of this feat was never unanimous, it is now generally construed as the first signal transmission through space, the first "aerial telegraph," utilizing only "natural static" for operating power, Loomis labored until his death in 1886 to achieve popular recognition of his work; he experienced a staggering succession of set-backs but never lost faith. The needed public recognition was never achieved. Yet he made one contribution for which, if for no other, he deserves to be recorded the only part of his system which lives today the "AERIAL," which he himself named, and in the use of which he was first by twenty years.

Meanwhile numerous other experimenters were securing strange effects through induction. Adjacent telephone and telegraph lines reacted mutually when there existed a strong enough field. Wild ideas sprang up briskly - names like Prof. Trowbridge of Harvard, Alexander Graham Bell, Prof. Oliver Lodge, Sir Wm H. Preece, Thomas Edison, A.W. Heavyside, Prof. Hughes and Prof. A.E. Dolbear, were linked with these effects. Some attempted to visualize a signaling system for the safety of ships at sea, others actually foresaw telegraphic communications. Preece and Heavyside, in particular, achieved, and in fact they must have unknowingly utilized something more than induction where distance of more than a few miles were covered.

But it remained for Hertz to establish, in practice, the electromagnetic effect conceived by Maxwell, in theory -- the principle of radiation, as opposed to mere induction -- and so to point the way out of the labyrinth. Let us return, in brief recapitulation, to again emphasize the historic progression in development of the radio art: from Faraday the Englishman, to Maxwell the Scot, to Hertz the German.

73 W9TC

Ted Clifton

DAYTON SHUTTLE BUS



Kick back and relax this year. The FWRC will charter a one-day bus to the Dayton Hamfest. There will be plenty of cargo space, front door parking, and comfortable seats. Cost will be about \$15 per person.

Call Cliff, N9MKB 483-7570 for further information.

Do you have an interesting article, news item, or cartoon which you can contribute to the Hamsplatter? Do you have some spare equipment collecting dust that you want to sell? If so, please contact me, Kris, KF9AW. My day phone is 487-3286, evenings 486-7324. Packet messages can be directed to me on 144.97, W9INX.

The deadline for submissions to the February Hamsplatter is February 4, 1996!

1996 MEMBERSHIP DATA: (Give this form to the treasurer at any FWRC meeting or mail to address below)

NAME _____ CALL _____ CLASS: N T G A E

MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE # () _____ WORK TELEPHONE # () _____

SHALL WE LIST YOUR ADDR/PHONE# IN MEMBER/ROSTER? Y N ARRL MEMBER? Y N

MEMBERSHIP TERM: (JAN-DEC) (JULY-DEC July 1-Dec 31 ONLY)

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$21.00/yr \$10.50/yr immediate family(list all calls)

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP: \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr licensed member

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP: \$6.00/yr \$3.00/yr full time student

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr unlicensed member

YOUR CHECK NUMBER # _____ PLEASE PAY BY CHECK, IT'S EASIER FOR BOTH OF US!

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK (Request one from President at any Regular Club Meeting)

Provided at no cost to club members, this handbook provides a full set of information about present and past Club activities, events, and functions. The handbook is available in a clear cover binder, and is upgradeable by easy insertion of new pages into the three-hole binder.

The Fort Wayne Radio Club - Celebrating 76 years of Service

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: CAROLE BURKE WB9RUS DAVE EVANS N9LOV
WALT WOOD N9AVR TODD HARGIS N9XRG

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January

1996



HAMSPIN

FORT WAYNE
RADIO CLUB
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Don't Forget Your 1996 Dues

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JIM & ANNE PLETT
K9OMA/KAGYYI

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